

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING SNA ACCESS TO TELNET 3270
AND TELNET 3270 ENHANCED SERVICES OVER WIDE AREA NETWORKS

The present invention relates to computer networks and more particularly to a system and method in an access device for establishing a Systems Network Architecture (SNA) session between an SNA Client and an SNA application using Telnet 3270 services over a communication network. The SNA client provides Telnet 3270 client services. An access device provides access to the communication network, and the communication network has attached one or a plurality of Telnet 3270 servers for accessing the SNA application. The method for use in an access device comprises the steps of (1) receiving from a Telnet 3270 client, a request for establishing a Telnet 3270 session with a Telnet 3270 Server, the request comprising an identification of the SNA client associated with the Telnet 3270 client, (2) selecting a communication path within the communication network to access a Telnet 3270 server providing services to the SNA client by referring to a configuration table, the configuration table comprising for each SNA client, one or plurality of communication paths leading to one or a plurality of Telnet 3270 servers, and (3) forwarding the Telnet 3270 session request to a selected Telnet 3270 server along the selected communication path.